



Driving safely near school buses

There is a 40km/h speed limit for traffic passing a school bus that is setting down or picking up school children. This speed limit is for all traffic travelling in the same direction as the bus, whether the bus is stationary or moving.

Lights will flash on the front and back of the bus reminding drivers that there may be children crossing or about to cross the road.

Buses can't stop quickly because they are large and heavy vehicles. So, remember:

- Reduce speed to 40km/h when bus lights are flashing
- Give way to buses
- Watch out for children crossing
- Never park in or near a bus stop or bus zone.

Informal school bus stops

Informal bus stops are not sign posted and are usually found in rural areas. They may be at the front of a property, or on the side of the road, which may make children difficult to see.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on [safetytown.com.au](https://www.safetytown.com.au)

Helping children on and off the bus safely

Your children are most at risk in the minutes after getting off the bus. Here are some ways you can reduce this risk:

- Always meet your child at the bus stop. Never meet them on the opposite side of the road and call them across.
- Wait until the bus has gone, then choose a safe place to cross the road. Remember to Stop! Look! Listen! Think!
- If you cannot meet your child, organise for another trusted adult to take your place.
- Wait at the bus stop and stand at least one step back from the edge of the road.
- Always wait until the bus has gone, then use a safe place to cross.
- Buckle up if the bus has seatbelts.

Model safe pedestrian behaviour. Children learn safe road user habits from you and will continue them later on when they are old enough to travel alone.

Until your child is at least eight years old, hold their hand on the footpath, in the carpark and when crossing the road. Up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, holding their hand when crossing the road.

STOP!

one step back from the kerb

LOOK!

continuously both ways

LISTEN!

for the sounds of approaching traffic

THINK!

whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 2

Hold a grown up's hand when:

- you cross the road
- you're on the footpath
- you're in a car park

Messages to share with your children in Years 3 and 4

- Hold an adult's hand when you cross the road
- Use a safe place to cross the road

Messages to share with children in Years 5 and 6

- Stop! Look! Listen! Think! every time you cross the road and keep checking until safely across

Kindergarten to Year 6

- Wait until the bus has gone and then use a safe place to cross

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